



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 27, 2022

The First Lady and I are pleased to help celebrate President Ulysses S. Grant's 200th birthday.

As commanding general, President Grant led our Nation through the most trying time in our history, the Civil War and its aftermath. For generations, we have admired his brilliance as a military tactician, his courage on the battlefield, his values as a defender of rights for Black Americans, and his leadership as a President who helped unite a divided people.

President Grant lived many lives. Born and raised in Ohio, he went on to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point and command hundreds of thousands of men in the Union Army. Once a struggling farmer, he went on to serve two terms as President of the United States. Once a slaveowner, he helped to emancipate the South, beat back the first Ku Klux Klan, and establish the Justice Department to protect the civil rights of all Americans, rebuilding our country as it emerged from the long shadow of slavery. President Grant rose to the occasion in one of our darkest periods to preserve our Union, defend our democracy, and pursue justice and unity.

As we observe the bicentennial of his birth, let us honor his legacy by carrying forward his charge to pursue hope over fear and unity over division and forever setting our sights on the more just Nation we know we can and must be.